

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
March 27, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Fruitland Park City Commission was held at 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 on Thursday, March 27, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Mayor Christopher Bell, Vice Mayor Albert Goldberg, Commissioners Christopher Cheshire, John L. Gunter, Jr., and Sharon Kelly.

**Also Present:** City Manager Gary La Venia, City Attorney Lewis Stone, Police Chief Terry Isaacs, City Treasurer Tannette Gayle, Community Development Director Charlie Rector, Library Director Jo-Ann Glendinning, Parks and Recreation Director Michelle Yoder, Public Works Director Dale Bogle, and City Clerk Esther B. Coulson.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION**

Father "Ted" Theodore F. Koelln, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Richard Field, Fire Department Explorer, led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, who responded to a question posed by Mayor Bell that he has been volunteering on behalf of the city for approximately three years.

**2. ROLL CALL**

At Mayor Bell's request, Ms. Coulson called the roll and a quorum was declared present.

**3. PROCLAMATIONS**

**(a) *National Volunteer Week - April 6 through 12, 2014***

On behalf of the city commission, Mayor Bell read into the record a proclamation recognizing April 6 through 12, 2014 as *National Volunteer Week* urging all citizens to recognize the valuable contributions made by volunteers and encouraging others to serve the community to improve their own life as well as the lives of others.

Mayor Bell announced the names of each volunteer in honor of their services provided in various segments of the city.

Later in the meeting, in referring to the "Dates to Remember", Mayor Bell reiterated on taking the time to volunteer.

(b) ***National Library Week, April 13 through 19, 2014 and National Library Workers' Day, April 15, 2014***

On behalf of the city commission, Mayor Bell read in the record a proclamation recognizing April 13, through 19, 2014 as *National Library Week* and April 15, 2014 as *National Library Workers' Day* and encouraged all residents to visit the library to take advantage of the resources available.

In response to Mayor Bell's reference to additional funds towards the library expansion, Ms. Jo-Ann Glendinning, Library Director, described the process involved after the issue was considered by the Lake County Advisory Board. He referred to recent newspaper articles featuring the one of children's story time program entitled "Kids Show Spirit of St. Patrick" and "30 Years Ago, Librarian Protected the President"; copies of which are filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

Ms. Glendinning accepted the proclamation with appreciation.

(c) ***Water Conservation Month April 2014 and Drinking Water Week, May 4 through 10, 2014***

On behalf of the city commission, Mayor Bell read into the record a proclamation proclaiming the month of April 2014 as *Water Conservation Month* and May 4 through 10, 2014 as *Drinking Water Week* and called upon each citizen and business to help protect our precious resource by practicing water saving measures and become more aware of the need to save water.

The proclamation was accepted with gratitude by Mr. Dale Bogle, Public Works Director.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Joe Hill, former St. John's River Water Management District (SJRWMD) Board member, addressed the need to be aware of conserving water for a year; referred to the presentation made by Ms. Teresa Watkins, Sustainable Horticultural Environments, at the city commission's February 22, 2014 workshop, and read into the record her email dated March 27, 2014 that the city's current water conservation ordinance is not conserving water with the request that the city commission commit to rewriting same which could be used as a model to other local governments for water conservation; a copy of which is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

In response, the city commission discussed the SJRWMD's previous authorization and the city's subsequent enactment of the water conservation ordinance prior to receiving the Consumptive Use Permit.

After discussion, Mr. Hill concurred with Mr. Stone's advice that instead of the city making a commitment, he would be contacting SJRWMD requesting that they communicate with Mr. La Venia to evaluate other options on water conservation.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Meeting Minutes**

**On motion of Vice Mayor Goldberg, seconded by Commissioner Kelly and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the March 13, 2014 City of Fruitland Park City Commission regular meeting minutes as submitted.**

**6. REGULAR AGENDA**

**(a) Charter Review Committee Update**

Mr. La Venia gave an update on the March 25, 2014 Charter Review Committee regarding its review of the final four articles in the charter and discussions held on redistricting. He addressed the plan for Mr. Greg Beliveau, LPG Urban and Regional Planners Inc., to appear before the committee at a future meeting to address the redistricting process and committee's intent to review the entire charter prior to its public hearing before making any recommendations to the city commission.

**(b) Auditor's Financial Report – W. Chet Ross, CPA, Shumacker, Johnston & Ross P.A.**

Mr. W. Chet Ross, Shumacker, Johnston & Ross P.A., gave a status update on the financial report for the city on outstanding fund balances and issues impacting the city.

After discussion on concerns relating to delays in receiving the auditor's report, Mr. Ross explained that he is available to assist with any problems.

Mr. Ross agreed with Mayor's Bell's request that he appear before city commission, at its April 24, 2014 regular meeting, to present his financial report and attend the city's forthcoming budget hearings whereby a schedule would be provided to him.

**(c) FY 2013/14 Budget Report**

Ms. Gayle gave an update on the fiscal year 2013/14 budget and explained that the Planning and Zoning Board's budget is over budget due to the development activities taking place in The Villages. (A revised budget report was submitted for the record and is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.)

**(d) Patrol Vehicles Purchase**

After extensive discussions on cost savings to the police department's budget on vehicle purchases, Mr. La Venia suggested that a six-year schedule be implemented to roll over vehicles. The city commission agreed with Chief Isaacs' recommendation to annually present same for approval.

**On motion of Vice Mayor Goldberg, seconded by Commissioner Kelly and unanimously carried, the city commission approved staff's recommendation**

**to purchase the following 2014 police interceptor patrol vehicles totaling \$116,919.00 from the Capital Improvement Program:**

- Sedan
- SUV, and
- K-9 SUV equipped with radar, camera, prisoner transport cages, and decals

**(e) Resolution 2014-005 Two-Cent Local Option Gas Tax**

At Mayor Bell's request, Mr. Stone read into the record the title of proposed draft Resolution 2014-005 to adopt a two-cent local option gas tax, the substance of which is as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS RELATED TO THE DISTRIBUTION OF LAKE COUNTY'S LOCAL OPTION GAS TAX AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 336.025, FLORIDA STATUTES AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS RESOLUTION, PROVIDING THAT ANY PRIOR RESOLUTION OR ACT OF THE COMMISSION IN CONFLICT HEREWITH IS REPEALED AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. La Venia gave background information on the subject proposed resolution; the potential increase in population and funding formula. He noted the smaller municipalities' support in approving option two.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Gunter and seconded by Vice Mayor Goldberg that the city commission adopt Resolution 2014-005, as previously cited.**

**Mayor Bell called for a roll call vote on the motion with the city commission members voting as follows:**

<b>Commissioner Kelly</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Gunter</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Vice Mayor Goldberg</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Cheshire</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mayor Bell</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion was declared unanimously carried.**

(f) **Surplus Radios and Pagers**

The city commission considered its action to approve the sale of listed radios and pagers that are no longer used and utilize funds for additional needed equipment and or purchases.

In Deputy Police Chief David Borst's absence, Chief Isaacs gave background information on the subject item and addressed his plan to appear before the city commission on a similar request for the police department.

After discussion and **on motion of Commissioner Kelly, seconded by Vice Mayor Goldberg and unanimously carried, the city commission approved staff's request on the sale of listed radios and pagers that are no longer used and utilize funds for additional needed equipment and or purchases.**

(g) **March 25, 2014 Lake County Board of County Commission Public Hearings Status Report**

Mr. La Venia explained that he and Mr. Rector attended the Lake County Board of County Commission's March 25, 2014 public hearing and conveyed its unanimous approval on the vacation, discontinuation, closing and ceasing of the portions of County Road 466A old alignment right-of-way and Pine Ridge Dairy Road maintenance.

Messrs. La Venia and Rector described the potential improvements on the subject roadways.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business to address at this time.

8. **OFFICERS' REPORTS**

(a) **City Manager**

- **Personnel Manual**

Mr. La Venia reported that staff has begun the process of updating the city's personnel manual; met with labor counsel during the week to review the recommended changes, and indicated that training will be provided to staff in the near future on:

- o diversity,
- o ethics,
- o harassment (violence in the workplace, negativity, and sexual);
- o customer service, and
- o safety.

- **Condolences**

Mr. La Venia extended condolences to Sergeant Beckie Sirolli, Police Department, on the recent passing of her father.

- **Best Budget Practices Workshop**  
Mr. La Venia reported that he and Ms. Gayle this day attended the Florida League of Cities University, Best Budget Practices Workshop Regional Summit Series at Winter Park who both agreed was informative on all aspects of budgeting.
- **Fruitland Park Founders Day**  
Mr. La Venia relayed his appreciation to the staff from the fire, police, community development, and parks and recreation departments for a job well done leading up to the March 15, 2014 Fruitland Park Founders Day event.
- **Parks Fees Ordinance**  
Mr. La Venia addressed the plan to place on the next regular agenda the city commission's consideration to amend the recreation fees for half and full day rental fees of the casino building to the existing code (Ordinance 2011-012).
- **CR 466A**  
Mr. La Venia announced that Lake County Public Works Department Director Jim Stivender Jr. will be giving a presentation on the County Road 466A corridor at the April 24, 2014 regular meeting.

- (b) **City Attorney**  
Mr. Stone stated that he has nothing to report at this time.

## 9. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- (a) **Vice Mayor Goldberg**  
Vice Mayor Goldberg thanked the city commission for excusing his absence at the March 13, 2014 regular city commission meeting.
- (b) **Commissioner Cheshire**  
Commissioner Cheshire advised that he has nothing to report at this time.
- (c) **Commissioner Gunter, Jr.**  
Commissioner Gunter advised that he has nothing to report at this time.
- (d) **Commissioner Kelly**  
Commissioner Kelly advised that she has nothing to report at this time.

## 10. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

- **Fruitland Park Founders Day**  
Mayor Bell believed that the Fruitland Park Founders Day was successful. He reported that a Mayor's booth was set up at the event where residents' concerns were heard namely, sidewalks issue and the need for more information from the city which he stated behooves the city on implementing same.

- **Dates to Remember**

o **Lake County Community Service Awards**

Mayor Bell recognized that Fire Chief Thomas "Tommy" Lee Gamble is the winner of the Public Service Award category and stated that he will be recognized at the April 30, 2014 Lake County Community Services Awards Dinner.

o **Annual Employee Picnic**

Mayor Bell noted that the annual employee picnic has been planned to be held on Saturday, May 3, 2014.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business to come before the city commission at this time, on motion made, second and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.**

The minutes were approved at the April 10, 2014 regular city commission meeting.

Signed   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Esther B. Coulson, City Clerk

Signed   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Bell, Mayor